Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 13031 200402Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3991

CONFIDENTIAL MANILA 13031

EXDIS

EYES ONLY FOR ASST. SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PDIP, RP, US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENT

REF: MANILA 12992, STATE 198221

1. DAVE NEWSOM IS GOOD NEWS FOR MANILA AND FOR US. ACTUALLY, HIS PENDING DESIGNATION HAS FILTERED THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE, AND I GATHER MAY BE AN OPEN SECRET IN JAKARTA. THUS, I WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THE GOP ALREADY HAS SOME INKLING OF IT. HOWEVER, NO HARM DONE THUS FAR, AND WE SHALL ENDEAVOR TO KEEP THE CONFIDENCE HERE. ALSO, I SHALL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE LINE THAT YOU SUGGEST, AND THAT I ALREADY HAVE USED WITH MRS. MARCOS AND OTHERS; (NOT, HOWEVER, WITH ROMULO AS YET, WHO CAUGHT ME SO OFF-GUARD AT THE AIRPORT THAT I AM AFRAID WIDE-EYED SURPRISE WAS MY PRIMARY RESPONSE).

2. AS TO HOW BEST TO CONVEY THE REQUEST FOR DAVE NEWSOM'S AGREMENT, I CAN DO THAT BEST WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS AND OR ROMULO ORALLY (WITH PROMPT FORMAL WRITTEN FOLLOW-UP) AS SOON AS YOU HAVE FINAL APPROVAL IN WASHINGTON. AT THAT TIME, I CAN ILLUMINATE THE PERSONAL STANDING AND GOOD RELATIONS ENJOYED BY DAVE ON THE CURRENT WASHING-CONFIDENTIAL

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TON SCENE, AS WELL AS HIS PROFESSIONAL REPUTATION AND CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS. IF STILL NECESSARY, I WILL TAKE THE OCCASION TO LAY TO REST ANY LINGERING NOTIONS THAT I MIGHT BE PROMOTABLE IN PLACE.

3. AS NOTED IN MY PREVIOUS MESSAGE (MANILA 12992), YOU OR UNDERSECRETARY COOPER POSSIBLY MIGHT WANT TO BACK ME

UP INFORMALLY WITH ROMULO AND/OR MARCOS. HOWEVER, I DOUBT IF THAT WILL BE NECESSARY IN THE EVENT.

4. MOST IMPORTANT, OF COURSE, WILL BE TO PREVENT PRESS LEAKS WHICH COULD STIMULATE ANY PREDICTABLE PUBLIC DISCUSSION. WE WILL DO OUR BEST FROM THIS END TO PREVENT THAT FROM OCCURING.
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Message Attributes

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